

ROSAMOND GILDER COLLECTION

PAPERS, 1917-1949  
5 1/2 linear feet

The Billy Rose Theatre Collection  
The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center

8-MWEZ + n.c.  
28,381 - 28,394  
\* F-1

January, 1990 (jem)

## INTRODUCTION

The Rosamond Gilder Collection was donated to The New York Public Library, Billy Rose Theatre Collection in February of 1987 by her surviving family-- Mrs. Helena Pappenheimer, Mr. Gilder Palmer, and Mr. Walter deKay Palmer. The material was received in good condition and very good order. The final arrangement of the material is very close to the arrangement of the material as it was received. Some correspondence was removed and placed in the CAGE file for security reasons and xeroxed copies are filed within the collection for use by researchers. Duplicate material was deaccessioned.

## BIOGRAPHY

Rosamond Gilder was born in Marion, Massachusetts in 1891 and raised in New York. Her father was Richard Watson Gilder, a New York literary figure and editor of The Century magazine.

Miss Gilder was a founder and former president of the International Theatre Institute, a worldwide group with 65 national centers, founded in Paris in 1947. The objective of the Institute is to provide a means for theatre people to exchange information free from government pressure. She was the Institute's president from 1947-1975 and its honorary president at the time of her death. She was also a founder and former vice president of the American National Theatre and Academy and an editor in chief and drama critic for Theatre Arts Magazine, where she was a staff member from 1924-1948. She was a former secretary of the New York Drama Critics Circle and an honorary member of the London Drama Critics Circle. She also directed the Federal Theatre Project's Bureau of Research and Publication from 1935 to 1936 as an associate of Hallie Flanagan Davis.

Rosamond Gilder was also an author. She wrote "Letters of Richard Watson Gilder," "Enter the Actress: The First Woman in the Theatre," and "John Gielgud's Hamlet: A Record of Performance." She edited "A Theatre Library: A Bibliography of 100 Books Relating to the Theatre," and was co-editor with George Freedley of "Theatre Collections in Libraries and Museums."

In 1948, Miss Gilder received a Tony Award from the American Theatre Wing, and in 1964 she was admitted to the French Order of Arts and Letters. She died in September, 1986.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Rosamond Gilder Collection measures 5 1/2 linear feet and consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, magazines, promotional literature, and other material related to the career of Miss Gilder. The material is arranged into the following five series: I. The American National Theatre and Academy; II. Artists' Clearing-House Project; III. Theatre Arts Monthly; IV. Editorial Publications Incorporated; and V. Subject Files. From the series arrangement it is clear that the bulk of the material relates to three aspects of Miss Gilder's career--her involvement with the American National Theatre and Academy, the Artists' Clearing-House Project, and Theatre Arts Monthly. There is also material in Series V. Subject Files about her involvement with the Legitimate Theatre League of New York Theatres, the New York Drama Critics Circle, the Theatre Library Association, Federal Theatre Project Publications under the Works Progress Administration, U.S.O.-Camp

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont'd)

Shows, Inc., and the National Little Theatre Movement. There are also a number of important correspondents in the collection including Sergei Eisenstein, Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt, Clifford Odets, William Saroyan, Jean-Paul Sarte, and Thornton Wilder.

There are a number of things the researcher should understand before using this collection. These are primarily corporate files of the organizations that Rosamond Gilder was involved in as opposed to her personal files. For this reason, much of the material is arranged chronologically rather than alphabetically and a correspondant might appear in several places in a file or box. Corporate files also contain form letters and memos, many of which are not individually catalogued. For a researcher to use this collection efficiently, he/she should have some knowledge of the membership of the organization being researched during the period covered by the collection. Another thing to remember is that some of the files, especially those concerning Theatre Arts Monthly, were inherited by Rosamond Gilder from Edith Isaacs, the first editor.

ROSAMOND GILDER COLLECTION

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
SERIES I. THE AMERICAN NATIONAL THEATRE AND ACADEMY			
28,381 (1)	1	Correspondence 1944-1945	1944-1945
	2	Correspondence January - April 1946	1946
	3	Correspondence May-August 1946	1946
	4	Correspondence September - December 1946	1946
	5	Correspondence 1947	1947
28,382 (2)	1	Correspondence 1948	1948
	2	Correspondence January - March 1949	1949
	3	Correspondence April - December 1949	1949
	4	Articles about ANTA	1945-1949
	5	Brochure	1946-1948
	6	Experimental Theatre	1946-1947
	7	ANTA Graduate Academy	1946-1947
	8	Plans Submitted to ANTA The Breen Porterfield Plan	1945
	9	Plans Submitted to ANTA	1946-1948
SERIES II. ARTISTS' CLEARING-HOUSE PROJECT			
28,383 (3)	1	Correspondence, Minutes, Financial Statements	1936-1937
	2	Correspondence and Financial Statements	1938
	3	Correspondence	1939
SERIES III. THEATRE ARTS MONTHLY			
28,384 (4)	1	Fan Mail	1931-1947
	2	Correspondence	1942-1947
	3	Franklin Houston Correspondence	1945
	4	Correspondence about the sale of Theatre Arts Monthly	1946

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
SERIES III. THEATRE ARTS MONTHLY (cont'd)			
28,384 (4)	5	Correspondence and Documents about the sale of Theatre Arts Monthly	1947-1948
	6	Condolence letters on the sale of Theatre Arts Monthly	1948
	7	Advertising Rates	Undated
	8	Promotional Literature	1919-1947
28,385 (5)	1	Special Lope De Vega Issue	1933-1935
	2	Special Swedish Issue	1934-1940
	3	Special Issue on Motion Pictures	1938-1942
	4	Special Foreign Theatre Issue	1942-1944
	5	Research Material	Undated
	6	Minutes April 1919 - December 1929	1919-1929
	7	Minutes June 1930 - April 1939	1930-1939
	8	Minutes 1946 - 1947	1946-1947
28,386 (6)	1	Subscription Registers	1917-1918, 1922
	2	Correspondence with the London Office	1941-1946
	3	Free List and Exchange Subscriptions	1946-1947
	4	Correspondence regarding the Elmhirst Reorganization	1924-1942
	5	Financial Papers	1930-1936
	6	Financial Papers	1940
	7	Financial Papers	1941
SERIES IV. EDITORIAL PUBLICATIONS INCORPORATED			
28,387 (7)	1	Financial Papers	1935
	2	Financial Papers	1936
	3	Financial Papers	1937
	4	Financial Papers	1938
	5	Financial Papers	1939
	6	Financial Papers	1940

ROSAMOND GILDER COLLECTION

BOX      FOLDER      TITLE      INCLUSIVE DATES

SERIES IV. EDITORIAL PUBLICATIONS INCORPORATED (cont'd)

28,388 (8)	1	Theatre Arts Incorporated Financial Papers	1941
	2	Theatre Arts Incorporated Financial Papers	1942
	3	Theatre Arts Incorporated Financial Papers	1943
	4	Theatre Arts Incorporated Financial Papers	1944
	5	Theatre Arts Incorporated Financial Papers	1945

SERIES V. SUBJECT FILES

28,389 (9)	1	American Educational Theatre Association	1945-1948
	2	Architecture, Theatre	1932-1945
	3	Architecture, Theatre	1946-1947
	4	Architecture, Theatre	Undated
	5	Arnold, Paul	1947-1948
	6	Correspondence - B	1947-1948
	7	Bibliographies	1926-1939
	8	Biographies	Undated
	9	Bogue, Anna	1932-1940
	10	Building Code	1935-1936
	11	Correspondence - C	1942-1948
	12	Clark, Bennett H.	1932-1941
	13	Competitions, Playwriting	1943-1944

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
SERIES V. SUBJECT FILES (cont'd)			
28,390 (10)	1	Copyright Laws	1933-1945
	2	Cornell, Katharine Tour of the World	1937
	3	Craig, Gordon	1924-1938
	4	Critics Circle, The	1946-1948
	5	Curiosities	1917-1944
	6	Correspondence - D	1938-1948
	7	Dukes, Ashley	1927-1948
	8	Correspondence - E	1944-1945
	9	Editorial Publications	1933-1940
	10	Eustis, Morton	1934-1945
	11	Correspondence - F, G	1939-1948
	12	Correspondence - H	1932-1944
	13	Hartnoll, Phyllis	1940-1946
28,391 (11)	1	Isaacs, Mrs. Edith	1932-1948
	2	Correspondence - J	1932-1946
	3	Jones, Rupel J.	1931-1938
	4	Correspondence - K	1942
	5	Koch, Frederick	1932-1936
	6	Legitimate Theatre League of New York Theatres, The	1933-1939
	7	Legislation Regarding the Theatre	1933-1938
	8	Lunt, Alfred	1943-1947
	9	Correspondence - M	1932-1945
	10	Mayor's Municipal Art Committee	1934-1939
	11	Mirror of the Theatre	1937
	12	Monumenta Scenica	1937

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SERIES V. SUBJECT FILES (cont'd)

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
28,392 (12)	1	Movies, Foreign and Special	1945-1948
	2	Correspondence - N	1943-1947
	3	National Theatre Conference	1934-1948
	4	National Theatre Project	1933-1945
	5	New York Drama Critics Circle	1939-1948
	6	New York Public Library	1932-1944
	7	Correspondence - O	1936-1940
	8	Producer's Who's Who	Undated
	9	Quinn, Arthur H.	1932-1936
	10	Rockefeller Foundation	1934-1939
28,393 (13)	1	Correspondence - S	1934-1948
	2	Stockholders Correspondence (Theatre Arts Inc.)	1926-February 1944
	3	Stockholders Correspondence (Theatre Arts Inc.)	March 1944-1947
	4	Correspondence - T	1931-1948
	5	The Theatre Collectors' Gazette	1934
	6	Theatre Guild Exhibition	1941-1942
	7	Theatre Library Association	1937-1948
28,394 (14)	1	Trask, Franklin	1923-1934
	2	Correspondence - U	1935-1947
	3	UNESCO	1948-1949
	4	United States Works Progress Administration Federal Theatre Project Publications	1937-1939
	5	USO-Camp Shows, Inc.	1942-1943
	6	Correspondence - V	1935-1948
	7	Correspondence - W	1932-1946
	8	Western Reserve University Players	1932-1936
	9	Correspondence Y, Z	1938-1948



ROSAMOND GILDER

SEPARATION SHEET

Autograph material removed from the collection for preservation and security. A reading copy is available to readers in the collection. Original copies are not to be used by readers without special need and permission from the curator. The originals are located in the CAGE catalogue under Gilder, Rosamond.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>REMOVED FROM</u>
Brooks, Atkinson	1945	28,381 #1
Clurman, Harold	1946	28,384 #1
Eisenstein, Sergei	1944-1946	28,390 #8
Hughes, Langston	1935	28,385 #1
Jones, Robert Edmond	1932-1946	28,381 #1
		28,384 #1
		28,391 #2
La Guardia, Fiorello	1934-1935	28,391 #10
Lunt, Alfred	1946	28,391 #8
Fontanne, Lynn	1947	28,391 #8
MacArthur, Charles	1946	28,384 #5
Mielziner, Jo	1947	28,384 #2
Odets, Clifford	1942	28,392 #7
Ouspenskaya, Maria	1940, 1944	28,384 #1
		28,392 #7
Saroyan, William	1939	28,393 #1
Sartre, Jean-Paul	undated	28,393 #1
Sherwood, Robert	1945-1946	28,381 #1-3
Straight, Beatrice	1939	28,392 #1
Thorndike, Sybil	1947	28,393 #4
Van Vechten, Carl	1939, 1943	28,384 #1
		28,394 #6
Wilder, Thornton	1940, 1946	28,385 #3
		28,394 #7